

the part of Nebraskans and we want to buy things rather than provide quality education and quality teachers. To get back to the original topic, Senator Dierks, about...talking about the buildings and the schools and the facilities, Senator Robak was talking about the separate facilities for girls and boys in elementary school when she was in school. I recall a conversation that was oral history reported one year back...one generation before that of a school district in the area that got into quite a controversy over whether or not to build facilities. And the meeting that was held by the district, if you recall, everyone came to the meetings, they weren't decided by a board, an elected board of education, they were decided at district meetings. And the meeting broke up that evening with a comment from one of the pioneers in that the bushes were good enough for his grandfather, the bushes were good enough for himself...his father, good enough for himself and they were good enough for the children of this pioneer and the facilities' expenditure was postponed for another year upon that...that conversation. So we have two indications of divergent opinions on what is necessary in childhood education. We have divergent opinions on...divergent opinions on what is necessary in natural resource districts and what's good for the State of Nebraska. Would you say that natural resource districts, in total under the current system,...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...have been effective in providing services to the state as they were originally intended?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, I do believe that the NRDs are doing an effective job. I'm impressed with those that I represent. They are very diligent people. They work very hard at their jobs and I think that they have been somewhat unjustly maligned by some individuals for not completing some of their work on time, but sometimes that work was very burdensome and they needed to have some delays. Understand that some of those delays have taken place and new deadlines set. I think that sometimes it was a little bit misperception of people to think on the original deadlines but maybe a little heavy-handness was used there, but I think that they do an excellent job. I'm glad we extended some time to them to get some of their necessary work done.